

[illegible]

Valley Grace Brethren Church of Armagh, PA
Sunday, April 24th, AD 2022

The LORD'S Day

The Twenty-fourth Day of April, *in the Year of our Lord* 2022

Welcome to the worship services of Valley Grace Brethren Church!

Sunday School—9:30 AM.



As a sub-series within our larger series on Church History, we begin to examine the **Doctrine of Divine Election**, which became a major issue of contention in the 5th Century AD.

Morning Worship—10:30 AM.

Call to Worship:* *"He is Lord"* (#21).

Invocation.*

Hymn: *"Glory to His Name"* (#195).

Prayer for Tithes & Offerings.

Scripture Reading: Romans 12:1-8.

Prayer, Praises, & Testimony.

Special Solo: Anna Mason, *"Satisfied"*

Announcemnts.

Hymn: *"The Family of God"* (#75).

Dismissal of Youth for Children's Church.

Greeting One Another.

Message: *"WHAT IS A SPIRITUAL GIFT?"*

Closing Hymn:* *"The Church's one Foundation"* (#77).

Benediction.*



**The Congregation will please arise, if able.*



Pastor: Terry L. Reese

Blog: <https://reeseepastor.blogspot.com>

Phone: (814) 254-6734

Church: (814) 446-6685

Address: PO Box 178; Armagh, PA 15920

Facebook: @valleygbcarmagh

Web: <https://valleygbcarmaghpa.webs.com>

Downloadable audio mp3 messages at archive.org (@reesetpje)

Also check out our YouTube Channel (search "Terry Reese")!

Camp Mantowagan website: <https://www.campmantowagan.com>



Week of April 17-23

Early Service—20; Easter Worship—26

Midweek—5; Church Offering: \$561.⁰⁰

Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study—6:30 PM.

Our studies in **Daniel 4** continue as the Prophet Daniel, with great sorrow and pastoral concern, begins to interpret the meaning of the awesome *Dream of the Great Tree* unto Nebuchadnezzar.



Today's Verse for Reflection:

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."—1 Peter 4:10 (NASB)



Pastor Keith Merriman will be appearing at the Allegheny Conservative Grace Brethren District Conference on **Saturday, May 21**, at **Camp Albryoca** near Meyersdale, and will be giving a Power-Point presentation on our **African Missions**. Please see Pastor Reese if you are interested—it would be fantastic if

we could get a group together to attend! Registration and Donuts begin at **9:30 AM**, and the event will probably wind-up around **2:30 to 3:00 PM**. Pastor Keith should begin about 1:30.

"A spiritual gift is a supernaturally designed ability granted to every believer by which the Holy Spirit ministers to the body of Christ. A spiritual gift cannot be earned, pursued or worked up. It is merely 'received' through the grace of God."—John MacArthur

What is a Spiritual Gift?

Pastor Terry Reese, Valley GBC, 4/22/22

Jesus Christ is ALIVE!—and thus, He is able to meaningfully function as the living and active Head of His Church (Eph. 1:22, 4:15, 5:23, Col 1:18). Acting in this capacity, Christ (Eph. 4), *by* His Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12), distributes particular Spiritual Gifts unto His local Assemblies as He deems both fit and necessary. Any theory of Church administration that does not take this reality into account as the central dynamic of practical ministry, and instead, chooses to look to the world and its organizational models (e.g., the business realm), is ultimately doomed to failure (1 Cor. 1:20).

A *Spiritual Gift*, or “grace gift” (Greek, *charisma*), comes to individuals by the grace of God (Rom. 12:3, 6), and can be defined as a **divinely endowed special ability bestowed upon a member of the Body of Christ for service within the Body**. The gifts are thus to be distinguished from our natural talents or naturally developed abilities. Whereas the latter may come to us from God *via* our parents, or may develop naturally within the course of our lives, spiritual gifts come to us ***supernaturally***, directly from the Hand of God. Further, the major emphasis of the significant passages relating to spiritual gifts (Rom. 12, Eph. 4, 1 Cor. 12, 1 Pet. 4:10) deals with their use *in the service of the Body* (in contrast to natural abilities, which may be of benefit to mankind in general).

We might also observe that Paul also speaks of gifts in a different sense; namely as the endowment of specially gifted individuals *unto the Body* (as in Eph. 4:11-12).

Many of these gifts are enumerated in 1 Cor 12:7-10, 28-30, Rom. 12:6-8, and Eph. 4:11. Whether or not these lists are to be deemed exhaustive, the diversity-within-unity seen within the Body is further enhanced by different combinations and manifestations of these gifts within different individuals. While some may have multiple gifts (1 Cor. 12:31), each believer has at least *one* (1 Pet. 4:10). No single believer has *all* of the spiritual gifts, for we believers are designed, as 1 Cor. 12:12-27 indicates, to be *mutually dependent upon one another*. No believer is designed to be a sort of self-sufficient island-unto-himself. ***We need each other!***